

***Remarks***

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Based on the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

***Double Patenting***

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 27-36 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-10, 16-18, 20-24, 28, 29, 34, 35-39 of U.S. Patent No. 5,731,182.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

In response to the double patenting rejection, Applicants submit the attached Statement Under 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b) and Terminal Disclaimer. As stated in the attached Terminal Disclaimer and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § §1.321(c) and 1.340(b), the above-captioned application and the prior patent are commonly owned by The General Hospital Corporation. Applicants assert that the instant Terminal Disclaimer is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b).

In view of the submission of the attached Statement Under 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b) and Terminal Disclaimer, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the double patenting rejection.

***Conclusion***

All of the stated grounds of the rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Communication and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 21, 2005

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